Promotion of elementary education

1739. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of villages in which primary schools had been opened during the Sixth Plan period as against the target ; and

(b) what are the reasons for giving low priority, if any to the elementary education ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI SHUSHILA ROHATGI) :(a) No targets were fixed for opening of primary schools in the villages during the Sixth plan. However efforts have been made to cover all the habitations which have a population of 300 and more with the provision of primary schools within a walking distance of one kilometre.

(b) The programme of universalisation of elementary education had been accorded a very high priority under the Sixth plan with an outlay of Rs. 905 crores for Elementry Education as a whole under the Sixth plan which is 36 percent of the total allocation for Education. The elementary education has been an essential component of the MaximumNeeds Programme (MNP) of the plan and it also figured in point 16 of the new 20 point programme. The VII plan has also given a very high priority to this programme.

Construction of Umroi Airport

1740. SHRI JERLIE E. TARIANG: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether any request/suggestion has been received by Government to construct the Umroi Airport at the international standard for accommodating large aircraft :

(b) whether Government have also received requests for introducing Indian Airlines flights connecting Calcutta with Shillong and Dimapur airports; and

(c) if so, what is Government decision thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Resignation by Vice Chancellor of the North Eastern Hill University

1741. SHRI JARLIE E. TARIANG : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOMPENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Vice-Chancellor of the North Eastern Hill University has resigned :

(b) whether his resignation has been accepted and a new incumbent appointed in his place; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI) : (a) and (b) Yes Sir.

(c) Prof. R.K. Mishra Head of the Department of Biophysics, All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi has been appointed as Vice Chancellor of the North Eastern Hill University with effect from Ist March 1986.

Impact of Fastival of India

1742. SHRI KALP NATH RAI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :